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# THE MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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## THE ASSOCIATION MEETING

The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA was held at the College of the City of New York, N. Y., December 28, 29, 30, in accordance with the folloing invitation:

THE COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

*December 8th, 1909.*

*My dear Professor Howard:*

I beg to support on behalf of The College of the City of New York the invitation which will go to you through Professor Mott asking the Modern Language Association to hold its meeting in December, 1910, under our roof. We have here a new equipment that will, I think, be of interest to teachers generally, and room for the accommodation of all your members. You will receive most cordial welcome if your decision follows our wish.

Very truly yours,

JOHN H. FINLEY,  
*President.*

To Professor W. G. HOWARD,  
25 Conant Hall,  
Cambridge, Mass.

All the sessions were held in the Main Building of the College. Professor Brander Matthews, President of the Association, presided at all except the last, when Professor L. F. Mott was in the chair.

## FIRST SESSION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

The Association met at 2.50 p. m. The session was opened by an address of welcome from Acting President Adolph Werner.

The following cablegram was received and read:

PARIS, Dec. 27, 1910.

Greetings to the Association through Professor Mott from the capital of one Modern Language.

JOHN H. FINLEY.

The Secretary of the Association, Professor C. H. Grandgent, submitted as his report the published *Proceedings* of the last annual meeting and the whole volume of the *Publications* of the Association for the year 1910.

The report was accepted.

On motion of the Secretary, it was voted that a committee of three, consisting of former pupils or colleagues of the late Professor A. Marshall Elliott, be appointed to draw up a resolution commemorating his death. The President appointed Professors H. A. Todd, J. W. Bright, and F. M. Warren.

The Treasurer of the Association, Professor W. G. Howard, submitted the following report:

## RECEIPTS

Balance on hand, December 27, 1909,	.	.	.	.	\$2,949 62
From Members, Life,	.	.	.	.\$	80 00
“ “ for 1907,	.	.	.		9 00
“ “ “ 1908,	.	.	.		39 00
“ “ “ 1909,	.	.	.		182 00
“ “ “ 1910,	.	.	.		2,301 30
“ “ “ 1911,	.	.	.		120 40
				—————	\$2,731 70

# PROCEEDINGS FOR 1910

v

From Libraries, Vols. I-XXIII, . . .	\$ 148 40	
“ “ “ XXIV, . . .	17 10	
“ “ “ XXV, . . .	160 40	
“ “ “ XXVI, . . .	81 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 406 90
For <i>Publications</i> , Vols. VI-XXIII, . . .	29 00	
“ “ “ XXIV, . . .	15 40	
“ “ “ XXV, . . .	55 10	
“ “ “ XXVI, . . .	2 70	
	<hr/>	\$ 102 20
From Advertisers, Vol. XXIV, . . .	60 00	
“ “ “ XXV, . . .	22 50	
	<hr/>	\$ 82 50
For Reprints, Vol. XXV, . . .	5 50	
“ Corrections, “ . . .	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 9 50
Interest, Eutaw Savings Bank, . . .	62 00	
“ Cambridge Savings Bank, . . .	41 50	
“ Cambridge Trust Co., . . .	23 83	\$ 127 33
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		3,460 13
		<hr/>
		\$6,409 75
		<hr/>

## EXPENDITURES

To Secretary for Salary, . . .	\$ 400 00	
“ “ “ Printing, . . .	67 45	
“ “ “ Postage, . . .	58 88	
“ “ “ Expressage, . . .	7 85	
“ “ “ Clerical work, . . .	8 50	
“ “ “ Proof-reading, . . .	4 50	
“ “ “ Typewriting, . . .	10 15	
	<hr/>	\$ 557 33
To Treasurer for Salary, . . .	\$ 200 00	
“ “ “ Printing, . . .	84 35	
“ “ “ Postage, . . .	2 90	
“ “ “ Expressage, . . .	30	
“ “ “ Clerical work, . . .	16 50	
	<hr/>	\$ 304 05
To Secretary, Central Division,		
For Salary, . . .	\$ 75 00	
“ Expenses, . . .	72 60	
	<hr/>	\$ 147 60

To Committee on Hon. Members, . . .	\$	3	50	
“ “ “ Early Texts, . . .		12	75	
				\$ 16 25
For Printing <i>Publications</i> ,				
Vol. XXV, No. 1, . . .	\$	509	96	
“ XXV, “ 2, . . .		495	88	
“ XXV, “ 3, . . .		515	85	
“ XXV, “ 4, . . .		659	93	
				\$2,181 62
For Printing Program 28th Annual Meeting, . . .	\$	100	59	
For Back Numbers of <i>Publications</i> , . . .		14	65	
Exchange, . . .		8	80	
				\$3,330 89
Balance on hand, { Eutaw Savings Bank, . . .	\$	1,612	10	
Dec. 27, 1910, { Cambridge Savings Bank, . . .		1,069	42	
{ Cambridge Trust Co., . . .		397	34	
				3,078 86
				<u>\$6,409 75</u>

On motion of the Treasurer, it was voted:

1. That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair to co-operate with two members to be appointed by the Chairman of the Central Division in measures looking to the accumulation of a permanent fund for the Association.
2. That there be referred for action to the next Union Meeting and published with the notice of that Meeting as a subject for action thereat:

A recommendation to the Executive Council to appoint three Trustees upon terms that shall give effect to the following principles, to wit:

- a) The Trustees shall receive and hold all unrestricted gifts, and all bequests and legacies to the Association which are not restricted to particular uses by the will of the testator.
- b) The Trustees shall keep intact the principal of all sums entrusted to them and shall invest it at their discretion; provided, however, that if at any time the Association be dissolved, the Trustees shall then give and pay over to the Trustees of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching all moneys, principal and interest, and all rights, properties, and evidences of property by them held in trust for the benefit of this Association.

- c) The Trustees shal annually on the third Monday in January pay the net income of all trust funds in their keeping to the Tresurer of the Association for the general uses thereof.
- 3 That members of the Association be and they hereby ar invited to signify to the Committee aforesed:
  - a) their willingness to contribute to a permanent fund for the Association, if such a fund be establisht;
  - b) their willingness to become Life Members, and on what terms.
- 4. That the Tresurer be authorized to receive and hold contributions to a permanent fund until Trustees ar appointed to receive them, or, in case Trustees shud not be appointed in the year 1912, subject to the order of the Executiv Council.

The President of the Association appointed as members of this Committee: Professors W. G. Howard, H. E. Greene, and J. Geddes, Jr. The Chairman of the Central Division appointed Professors J. W. Cunliffe and A. F. Kuersteiner.

On motion of Professor J. W. Cunliffe, it was voted, after discussion by Professors Brander Matthews, W. H. Carpenter, C. H. Grandgent, and F. N. Scott:

That the Chair be requested to nominate a committee of three to submit to this meeting some course of action with a view to the registration of subjects of doctoral dissertations in hand.

The President designated Professors J. W. Cunliffe, F. N. Scott, and H. A. Todd.

The President next appointed the folloing committees:

- (1) To audit the Tresurer's report: Professors G. B. Woods, C. F. Brown, A. A. Livingston.
- (2) To nominate officers: Professors F. N. Scott, H. C. G. Brandt, E. C. Armstrong.

The reading of papers was then begun.

1. "The Influence of Greene on Shakspeare's Earlier Romances." By Mr. Joseph L. Tynan, of the College of the City of New York.

[Examination of romantic comedy during the period preceding 1600 reveals two types: that which precedes Greene and that which Greene established. The former is irregular. There is no center to the action, no enduring ideality in the love, little delicacy in the villain, and no integration of the comic plot. With Greene the drama becomes the struggle of an ideal love against the opposition of parents, differences of rank, faithlessness, amid adventures, and ending in repentance and happiness, with surprise. To this form Shakspeare adhered in his earlier romance, showing imitation of Greene's work in the treatment of the heroine, the villain, the clown, and *dénouement*, and paralleling structural methods.—*Twenty minutes*.]

2. "The Influence of Reprints upon the text of Goethe's Works." By Dr. W. Kurrelmeyer, of the Johns Hopkins University.

[Certain volumes of the *Neue Schriften*, 1792-1800 (N), and *Werke*, 1806-10 (A) were reprinted by the publishers without Goethe's knowledge. These *Doppeldrucke* constitute a corruption of the text. A number of volumes (N<sup>1</sup> A<sup>1</sup>) were used by Goethe in making up the copy for succeeding editions. Many errors were thus introduced and perpetuated. Vols. 1-10 of the edition of 1815-19 (B) were also reprinted.—*Twenty minutes*.]

3. "A Reclassification of the *Perceval* Romances." By Professor George B. Woods, of Miami University.

[For a number of years the theory has been accepted that the *Perceval* story is an illustration of the *Expulsion-and-Return* formula of folk-lore. The author took exception to this classification and suggested that the story is essentially a combination of two other independent and well-recognized formulas. The bearing of this new classification upon the inter-relation of several versions of the story was also briefly considered.—*Twenty-five minutes*.]

This paper was discussed by Professor A. C. L. Brown.

4. "Aspects of the *Seicento*: (1) Pessimism, (2) Sensuality, (3) Science and the *Concetto*." By Professor Arthur A. Livingston, of Cornell University.

[I. Pessimism.—The Reform in Italy: characteristics of the religious poetry of the sixteenth century; Italian skeptics; peripatetic philosophy and the Church; Pomponazzi; Cremonini and the mortality of the soul; the school of Padova and a group of Venetian pessimists; Niccolò Crasso; Giacomo Badoer; G. F. Busenello; Zuan Garzoni; Mocenigo; Andrea Venier; pessimism and the literary criticism of 1630; pessimism and Italian politics; pessimism and moral ideals.—II. Sensuality.—Pessimism and art.—III. Science and the *concetto*.—Fifteen minutes.]

5. "Scott's *Ivanhoe* and Sidney's *Arcadia*." By Dr. Samuel Lee Wolff, of Columbia University.

[The indebtedness of *Ivanhoe* to the *Arcadia* has not, it is believed, been exhaustively treated. There is evidence both internal and external to support the conclusion that Scott borrowed the outline and several details of Sidney's episode of the captivity of Pamela, Philoclea, and Pyrocles (*Arcadia*, Book III). These borrowings he employed freely in composing his own episode of the captivity of Rebecca, Rowena, and *Ivanhoe* (*Ivanhoe*, Chaps. 19-31).—Ten minutes.]

At eight o'clock on the evening of Wednesday, December 28, Professor Brander Matthews, President of the Association, delivered in the Assembly Room of Townsend Hall an address on the subject, "The Economic Interpretation of Literary History."

After the address Professor Werner received the members and guests of the Association in the Tower Room of the Main Building.

#### SECOND SESSION, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

The session began at 9.45 a. m.

Professor J. W. Cunliffe submitted the following report of the Committee on the Reproduction of Early Texts.

The efforts of the committee during the past year have been mainly directed towards securing the publication of a facsimile reproduction of the Caedmon MS. in the Bodleian Library. In accordance with the resolution past at the last meeting of the Eastern Division, a circular was issued inviting subscriptions, and forty-nine were obtained from the United States and Canada, in addition to a smaller number abroad. The conditions imposed by the Oxford University Press seemed to be in a fair way for fulfilment, when it was discovered that these conditions were differently understood by your Committee and by the Press. At the suggestion of the Secretary to the Press the Committee turned their subscription list over to him, and satisfactory assurances have since been received from him that the reproduction will be issued, possibly as a memorial to the late Dr. Furnivall.

J. W. CUNLIFFE, *Chairman*.

C. M. GAYLEY.

G. L. KITTEDGE.

J. M. MANLY.

H. A. TODD.

The Secretary presented the following communication from the Bibliographical Society of America:

TO THE MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

*Gentlemen:—*

At the last annual meeting of the Bibliographical Society of America Professor Clark S. Northup, a member both of your association and of ours, presented a paper, "The present bibliographical status of modern philology," containing a detailed survey of the manner and extent of existing bibliographies of this vast field of study. A number of representatives of modern language studies in American colleges and universities also presented statements, the corollary of which was that while some branches of modern language study are adequately treated in current bibliographies, others leave much to be desired both as regards fullness of treatment and promptness of recording. It seems well proven by a consensus of opinion that the bibliography of German language and literature, on the whole, is in an excellent condition, but that that of English, Romance, and Scandinavian studies stands in great need of a concerted effort in order to effect needed improvements.

At the same meeting, another paper, by the chairman of this committee, brought out the fact that the complaint of bibliographical service for modern publications is general.

The Bibliographical Society of America, in response to the recommendations contained in these two papers, appointed a committee to investigate the scope and method of special bibliographies, to consider remedies for unnecessary duplication, and to advise means of extending the efficiency of the bibliographies already in existence. The Committee was especially instructed to begin its investigations with the field of modern philology.

We beg to lay this matter before you and to ask that you appoint a committee to coöperate and advise with ours, and, if possible, to meet with it.

We hope that a result of permanent importance may be the outcome of the proposed concerted investigation, whether through the establishment of a central bureau where the bibliographic interests of the modern language studies could be adequately promoted, or in some other form that might reflect the general importance of the need and our common interest in its reliefment.

We submit, as a supplement to this communication, the proceedings of the last annual meeting of the Bibliographical Society of America, containing a summary of the above mentioned statements from representatives of modern language studies.

The undersigned regret that the third member of our committee, Professor C. S. Northup, through absence in Europe is prevented from signing this communication.

Very respectfully,

J. CHRISTIAN DAY.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON,

*For the Committee on Survey of Bibliographical  
Literature, of the Bibliographical Society of America.*

Chicago, 15th December, 1910.

On motion of the Secretary, it was voted that Professor Raymond Weeks, of Columbia University, be appointed to represent the eastern wing of the Association in conference with a representative of the western branch and a committee of the Bibliographical Society, and that he have power to designate other members of the Association to constitute a committee of the eastern body. [President John S. Nollen, of Lake Forest College, was chosen to represent the Central Division.]

The Chairman of the Committee on the Scope of the *Publications*, Professor J. E. Spingarn, submitted the folloing report in print:

This committee,—consisting of Professors J. E. Spingarn, F. N. Scott, B. L. Bowen, C. B. Wilson, and E. C. Armstrong,—was appointed in December, 1908, in order to consider the advisability of enlarging or modifying the scope of the *Publications* of the Association. The Committee rendered its report at the annual meeting in December, 1909; the report was adopted, and the Committee was continued in office for another year. In January, 1910, however, the Acting Secretary questioned the constitutional validity of one of the recommendations of the Committee; and at the suggestion of the Council it was decided to submit the question to a referendum of the Association. In this referendum about half of the membership took part, and the vote was adverse to the report of the Committee.

A majority of the Committee is inclined to renew its recommendations of last year; but as a constitutional doubt still remains, the Committee deems it advisable to make no report until the Union Meeting of 1911 (at which the constitution may properly be amended), except to ask that it be continued in office for another year, so that whatever report it may make can be without legal restrictions adopted by the Association at such Union Meeting in 1911.

J. E. SPINGARN,  
*Chairman.*

On motion of Professor B. P. Bourland, it was unanimously voted that the Committee on the Scope of the *Publications* be discharged.

The Chairman of the Committee of Fifteen, Professor L. A. Loiseaux, submitted in print the folloing report, which had been presented orally the year before:

At the Princeton meeting, on December 30th, 1908, the Association voted that the report presented then "be referred to a committee consisting of the Chairman of the Committee of Fifteen and such other members of that Committee as he may select" (cf. *Proceedings* for 1908, p. xvii).